

Proposed Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims

Claim 1-2 are hereby canceled.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The An improved receptacle of Claim 1 wherein the substantially annular sidewall includes~~ for receipt of cupcake or muffin batter comprising:

a body portion defining a single batter receiving cavity formed from a substantially silicone rubber material, the body portion including,

a substantially planar bottom portion having a rounded periphery, the bottom portion having an inside surface for receipt of food product; and

a resilient, substantially annular sidewall portion which extends upwardly and radially outwardly from the rounded periphery of the planar bottom portion and which terminates in a rimless top surface, the annular sidewall portion having an inner surface for receipt of food product, a plurality of ridges extending radially outwardly and valleys extending radially inwardly, the plurality of ridges and valleys cooperating to enhance the flexibility of the substantially annular side wall, and the substantially annular sidewall and the planar bottom portion being joined by an angled corner portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The improved receptacle for receipt of batter of Claim 3+ wherein the fusto-conical body is injection molded from a flowable silicone rubber material.

5. (Currently Amended) The improved receptacle of Claim 31 wherein the planar bottom portion and substantially annular sidewalls are dimensioned to fit within a frusto-conical depression in a cupcake pan to serve as a cupcake liner.
6. (Currently Amended) The improved receptacle of Claim 31 wherein the planar bottom portion and substantially annular sidewalls are formed from a sufficiently thick layer of silicone rubber to impart sufficient rigidity to resist substantial deformation when cupcake batter is received therein so that the receptacle can act as a cupcake mold for baking without additional lateral support.
7. (Currently Amended) The improved receptacle of Claim 31 wherein the base portion has an inside surface for receipt of muffin batter.

Claims 8 and 9 are hereby canceled.

10. (Currently amended) ~~An The improved cupcake liner of Claim 8 wherein the substantially annular sidewall includes~~ for insertion within a cupcake or muffin pan having a plurality of batter receiving cavities with bottom and sidewalls of predetermined dimensions, the cupcake liner comprising:

a frusto-conical body formed substantially from a silicone resin, the body including, a planar base portion having a rounded periphery and being dimensioned for receipt within a single batter receiving cavity of the cupcake or muffin pan; and

a resilient, substantially annular sidewall portion which extends upwardly and radially outwardly from the rounded periphery of the planar base portion and which terminates in a rimless top surface, the substantially annular sidewall and the planar base portion being joined by an angled corner portion, the substantially annular sidewall being dimensioned for lining the sidewalls of one of the batter receiving cavities and including a plurality of ridges extending radially outwardly and valleys extending radially inwardly, the plurality of ridges and valleys cooperating to enhance the flexibility of the substantially annular side wall.

11. (Currently amended) The improved cupcake liner of Claim 810 wherein the fusto-concial

body is injection molded from a flowable silicone rubber material.

Claims 12 and 13 are hereby canceled

14. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ improved individual cupcake mold ~~of Claim 12 wherein for receiving cupcake or muffin batter, comprising:~~

a single frusto-conical body formed substantially from a substantially silicone rubber resin, the frusto-conical body including,

a planar base portion having a rounded periphery, the base portion having an inside surface for receipt of cupcake or muffin batter and an outside surface; and

a resilient, substantially annular sidewall portion which extends upwardly and radially outwardly from the rounded periphery of the planar base portion and which terminates in a rimless top surface, the planar base portion and substantially annular sidewall are formed from a sufficiently thick layer of silicone rubber to impart rigidity sufficient to resist substantial deformation when cupcake or muffin batter is received therein so that the receptacle can act as a single, stand alone cupcake or muffin mold for baking, the substantially annular sidewall and the planar base portion being joined by an angled corner portion, and the substantially annular sidewall includes- including a plurality of ridges extending radially outwardly and valleys extending radially inwardly, the plurality of ridges and valleys cooperating to enhance the flexibility of the substantially annular side wall.

15. (Currently amended) The improved individual cupcake mold of Claim 14 wherein the frusto-conical body is injection molded from a flowable silicone rubber material.

Claims 16-21 were previously withdrawn.

22. (Currently amended) The improved receptacle of Claim 13 wherein the thickness of the substantially annular sidewall at the rimless top surface is greater than the sidewall thickness along the remainder of the substantially annular sidewall ~~and, but is thinner than required to form a rim structure that would significantly increase the structural stability of the improved receptacle wherein expansion at the rimless top surface of the substantially annular side wall~~

through articulation of the plurality of ridges and valleys assists in release of batter after baking.

23. (Currently amended) The improved cupcake liner of Claim 10~~receptacle of Claim 8~~ wherein the thickness of the substantially annular sidewall at rimless top surface is greater than the sidewall thickness along the remainder of the substantially annular sidewall and~~but thinner than required to form a rim structure that would significantly increase the structural stability of the improved receptacle wherein expansion at the rimless top surface of the substantially annular side wall through articulation of the plurality of ridges and valleys assists in release of batter after baking.~~

24. (Currently amended) The improved ~~receptacle~~-cupcake mold of Claim 12~~4~~ wherein the thickness of the substantially annular sidewall at the rimless top surface is greater than the sidewall thickness along the remainder of the substantially annular sidewall and~~, but is thinner than required to form a rim structure that would significantly increase the structural stability of the improved receptacle wherein expansion at the rimless top surface of the substantially annular side wall through articulation of the plurality of ridges and valleys assists in release of batter after baking.~~